

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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Naval Units

1. A cruiser squadron of the Soviet Black Sea Fleet is based at Sevastopol. It includes the vessels "Sevastopol", "Krasny Krim", "Molotov", "Voroshilov", and a ship whose name is unknown.
2. Smaller operational craft based at Sevastopol are as follows:
 - a. a weak flotilla of submarines
 - b. about two flotillas of torpedo-boats
3. Also moored in the bay up to October 1947 were three three-funnel cruisers of Tsarist date, used as training ships. These, then, disappeared from their normal anchorage. They may, however, be inside one of the harbors.
4. The troopship "Volga", is based at Sevastopol and spends much of her time anchored in the bay.

Naval Base Installations

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5. The center of the naval base is the factory quarter, containing the torpedo factory [] and the naval harbor [] which has a very large hangar on the east side, about 200 x 90 x 15 m in size. A smaller naval harbor [] is used by small craft only. The naval shipyard, however, is on the north side of the bay [] It has a dry dock capable of taking the largest naval vessels.

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Military and Defense Works

6. The caves and storage galleries in the cliffs on both sides of the bay were partly demolished by the Germans in 1944. None of them was observed to be in use and the damaged ones had not been repaired by late 1947.

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7. In the whole area of the bay, there are sixteen anti-aircraft and/or searchlight positions. All guns observed were medium or small caliber; some were ex-German. Tent living quarters and surface telephone lines give the sites a temporary appearance.

8. A new barracks on the hill above Sevastopol [] contains an armored formation having 200-250 Sherman tanks and German armored cars, which arrived in October 1947.

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9. PW labor for the Sevastopol area is supplied by camps 3318, 7241/12, and 7241/5, housed in and round the ruined Admiralty Palace []. The PWs are supervised by MVD Guard Regiment 317 K.

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Air

10. Nine twin-engined reconnaissance flying-boats are stationed at the flying-boat base []. They are believed to be of American origin.

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11. On the landing ground [] north of the bay are stationed only three biplanes.

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12. A large new airfield is under construction about 2 km north of Balbek. In November 1947, the levelling of the landing area was nearing completion.

Trade and Communications

13. All railway communication from Sevastopol goes through Simferopol, to which the line is single-track. From Sevastopol there are two passenger trains to Moscow daily. Average freight traffic daily each way is six trains of 60 - 80 axes each, loading mainly stone and scrap and discharging mainly coal, timber, and limestone.

14. The road to Simferopol is in good condition. The whole bay is encircled by a first-class motor road on the edge of the plateau, which crosses a long narrow wooden bridge guarded by two sentries at Inkerman.

15. Considering that the whole economy of Sevastopol is orientated seaward, very few small craft ply inside the bay, and few are being built to remedy the shortage.

16. Passenger traffic by sea is confined to a twice-weekly service to Odessa and Batum, run by the S.S. "Ukraine" and "Viktorina", which berth at the coaling quay [].

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17. No fishing is done from Sevastopol Bay.

18. About one oil tanker per month berths at the oiling quay (23), where there are four bombed-out storage tanks above ground and a number of new underground ones in use.

19. Cargo traffic is very slight. The mercantile harbor [] never important, is almost deserted. Its quays are mainly useable.

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Electric Power

20. Current is supplied to the Sevastopol area by two power stations. The larger [] feeds the town and everything south of the bay. It is equipped with generators dismantled from Elbing (East Prussia), which are said to be working to 75% of their former capacity. The fuel used is Donetz coal. The power station buildings are camouflaged.

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21. The smaller power station [] supplies everything north of the bay. It burns oil in ex-German AEG generators.

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